

Appl. No. 09/775,285
Response dated March 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2006
Docket No. 6169-149

IBM Docket No. BOC9-2000-0004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for presenting database query results through an audio user interface (AUI), comprising:

initiating a database query operation, said operation retrieving a plurality of database query result items from at least one database; and,

audibly presenting each said one-by-one the retrieved database query result [[item]] items through the AUI as each said query result item is found in said at least one database, said presenting step occurring concurrently with said database query operation and continuing until a particular one of the retrieved database query result items is selected by a user, or until each of the retrieved database query result items has been sequentially presented to the user;

wherein the concurrently performed database query operation and audible presentment of retrieved database query result items terminate when the user supplies through the AUI a speech input indicating a user selection of a particular one of the retrieved database query result items.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, further comprising:

detecting a command during said presentation to terminate said database query operation; and,

responsive to said detection, terminating said database query operation.

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4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said command is a speech command.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
inserting each result item in a data structure as each query result item is found;
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said presenting step comprises:
presenting each query result item contained in said data structure independently of
but concurrently with said database query operation.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said data structure is selected from
the group consisting of a list, a stack, and a database.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said AUI is a telephony interface.
9. (Currently Amended) A system for presenting database query results through
an audio user interface (AUI) comprising:
a database manager for managing a database query operation on at least one
database, said database query operation producing database query result items; and,
a dialog manager for managing the presentation of said database query result items
through the AUI concurrently with said database query operation;
wherein said database manager and said dialog manager are configured to
concurrently perform the database query operation and audible presentments of database
query result items such that the each query result item is presented sequentially as each is
identified through the database query operation, the sequential presentment continuing
until a particular one of the retrieved database query result items is selected by a user, or

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until each of the retrieved database query result items has been sequentially presented to the user; and

wherein said database manager and said dialog manager are further configured to terminate the concurrently performed database query operation and audible presentment of retrieved database query result items when the user supplies through the AUI a speech input indicating a user selection of a particular one of the retrieved database query result items.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein said AUI comprises:
 - a text-to-speech processor for converting said database query result items into audible speech; and,
 - a speech recognition engine for converting speech input into text recognizable by said dialog manager.
11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein said AUI further comprises:
 - a barge-in facility.
12. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising:
 - a queue for storing database query result items from said database query operation; and,
 - a queue manager for managing the insertion and removal of database query items to and from said queue.
13. (Currently Amended) A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for presenting database query results through an AUI, said computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

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initiating a database query operation, said operation retrieving a plurality of database query result items from at least one database; and,

audibly presenting each—said one-by-one the retrieved database query result [[item]] items through the AUI as each said query result item is found in said at least one database, said presenting step occurring concurrently with said database query operation and continuing until a particular one of the retrieved database query result items is selected by a user, or until each of the retrieved database query result items has been sequentially presented to the user;

wherein the concurrently performed database query operation and audible presentment of retrieved database query result items terminate when the user supplies through the AUI a speech input indicating a user selection of a particular one of the retrieved database query result items.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The machine readable storage of claim [[14]] 13, further comprising:

detecting a command during said presentation to terminate said database query operation; and,

responsive to said detection, terminating said database query operation.

16. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 15, wherein said command is a speech command.

17. (Previously Presented) The machine readable storage of claim 13, further comprising:

inserting each result item in a data structure as each query result item is found,

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18. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 17, wherein said presenting step comprises:

presenting each query result item contained in said data structure independently of but concurrently with said database query operation.

19. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 13, wherein said data structure is selected from the group consisting of a list, a stack, and a database.

20. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 13, wherein said AUI is a telephony interface.